Abstract

A swath printing system and under/overprinting method compensate for the

effects of defective printing elements by adjusting the under/overprinting map used during

5   printing regions of a uniform color, typically black, to minimize the adverse impact on

print quality of unprinted "white space" caused by the defective printing elements. A

printing element quality detector determines which printing elements are functional and

which are defective. Based on this information, a print controller then selects or

constructs an under/overprinting map having under/overprinting pixel positions chosen to

10   reduce these adverse effects on print quality caused by the defective printing elements,

thus maintaining high image quality for the printed output.